



Volume 73

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Issue 6

HI-Q

THE LAKEHEAD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB JOURNAL

LARC- Suite 184, 1100C Memorial Ave., Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada, P7B 4A3

Down Memory Lane.....

HI-Q June 1988..... front page showed a radar-like map of North America with Thunder Bay about the middle.....only 5 printed pages....Field Day to be held at Kakabeka Falls Provincial Park with **VE3's JAU, MOE and BBS** organizing after things....**VE3NPS** carrying out phone campaign for nominations for office at the June General Meeting.....a motion by **VE3's RA and JAJ** makes interesting reading.....intent is to upgrade **VE3YQT** with new antennas, duplexer, etc....input frequency was to be changed to 147.660 MHz to keep with the recommended band plan/shift (?)... **VE3PHL** won the fifty-fifty draw.....there was a write-up for **VE3JAA** who became a Silent Key on May 13th...Arnold was a life member of LARC and ran the old "salt-mine" net on **VE3YQT** in the early morning hours for those on the way to work.....73 de ve3avs

From the CCRAA Newsletter.....

A few tidbits from across the Lake....some students are working on construction of a portable repeater (interesting project, eh?.....Ed.).....the CCRAA is also actively involved in severe storm watching through the NWS Skywarn program.....they also have an equipped club house and are in the process of erecting a beam.....statistics: membership is 110 with 22 out for the last meeting.....they also report Mir back on the air 145.985 Mhz....ARRL Field Day participation pins available for all those taking part in Field Day 2000....Finally, the newsletter reports that in Japan, where nearly

two million elderly suffer dementia and "go walking" , the Mitsui Company has developed a system for tracking their whereabouts by having a small transmitter attached to the patients.....if one goes walking, the family can use a terminal to request the patient location via satellite trackingneat, eh ?

Silent keys.....

Thomas Charles Kukkee, VA3KEE, passed away on April 30th. Tom was a recent addition to the ranks of amateur radio and a member of the LARC. It was always a pleasure to chat with Tom on his occasional appearances on two meters. He was a man with wide and varied interests in life....geology, prospecting, development of the Matawin gold belt, power squadron and computers. A well-attended memorial service was held on May 5th at Christ Lutheran Church.

Don Lindberg VE3BIL..... passed away on May 4th.

Do you remember.....

Gabe Fritzen (call sign???) was a hard-working member of the LARC for several years...recent newsletter from Rainy River placed him in Germany....your editor just got a phone call out of the blue recently from Gabe.....no time for the hobby...Gabe is situated between Hamburg and Hanover and operates his own business recycling computer printer cartridges for industry and government....he says that Europe is several years behind North America when it comes to recycling these kinds of products.

Founding President
P. J. (Pat) O'Shea VE3FW

LARC maintains the Club call **VE3FW** to honour his memory.

Senate
Keith Fiske VE3JQ
Ray Forslund VE3EDZ
Ray Greer VE3CH
Dave Kimpton, VE3AVS
Bill Klemacki VE3AJ
Bill Roberts VE3ARN

Executive Board

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Vice Pres:	Ed Baumann.....	VE3SNW 622-1216
Secretary:	Norm Bell	VE3XRC 577-9316
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	Bob Hanson.....	VE3RVA 767-6924
	Pat Pugh.....	VA3PP 345-8562
Past Pres:	Terry Stewardson.....	VE3TKA 577-9439

Club Repeaters
VE3YQT 147.060 - OFFSET
VE3TBR 146.820 - OFFSET
VE3TBB 145.470 – OFFSET(linked to VE3YQT)

**Next Meeting –
June 8th, 2000**

Meetings are held at 7:30 pm every second Thursday of each month at Confederation College in Room 207B in the McIntyre Building .

From the Techies.....

The VE3YQT antenna on Mount Baldy has finally been replaced. The riggers could not accommodate us any earlier due to a backlog of work. They found the old antenna in poor shape with two of the ground radials missing and the top support clamp loose at the tower. Hopefully this was the source of all the noise. Since the new antenna is a 4 bay folded dipole arrangement we would like to know what the repeater coverage is like now. If you venture north, south, east or west, what changes, if any, have you noticed?

Work is progressing in the UHF area towards getting a couple of repeaters in service this spring. Old commercial mobiles are being modified. Thanks to **VE3AJ** for the countless times he has programmed new frequencies into Eprom modules. There is some local PSK31 (Phase Shift Keying 31 baud) activity, a new mode that is really taking off on the HF bands. Like RTTY it is keyboard based, but because of its extremely narrow bandwidth it will tolerate a very poor signal to noise ratio. All that is needed is a computer with a sound card and free software. The Rx audio from your HF rig is connected to the sound card input and the sound card output is fed into the Tx audio. For more information take a look at this website: <http://www.psk.31.com/index.htm> It is the best site I have found with everything from the current software to interfacing methods.

Andy **VE3INI** (Tks AndyEd.)

Only in Canada (de VA3SAM)....

Can a pizza delivery truck get to your house faster than an ambulance.

Do you find handicap parking spots in front of a skating rink.

The following article is the first installment of a new monthly column that will be appearing on
<<http://www.adি-radio.com>>

What's the FREQUENCY, Kenneth?

By Ken Collier, KO6UX

On April 28, 2000 something amazing is going to happen, something that could have a profound effect on the future of amateur radio in the USA for years to come. (and likely in Canada as well....Ed.)

No, it isn't license restructuring. By April 28th the dust will have begun to settle on the license restructuring issue, leaving behind a simplified amateur radio license structure and the largest flurry of license upgrades in history. As exciting as the new license structure is, it is overshadowed by the potential ramifications of April 28th. That's because on April 28th, ham radio goes to the movies.

The new movie "*Frequency*" is a sci-fi action thriller starring Dennis Quaid, Jim Caviezel, and ham radio. It opens in most U.S. cities on Friday April 28th. By now many of you have begun to see commercials and trailers for the film.

The movie, itself, features ham radio in no small way. The basic plot involves ham radio signals reaching across time, as is evidenced in this excerpt from the official movie web site (www.frequencymovie.com):

"What if you had the chance to travel back in time and change just one event in your life? For John Sullivan (Jim Caviezel), there is no question. He would undo the events of October 12, 1969, when the out-of-control Bruxton fire took the life of his father, a heroic firefighter (Dennis Quaid). Now John may get exactly what he wished for . . . and much more than he bargained for. One day before the anniversary of his father's death, in the midst of the spectacular sky storm known as the aurora borealis, John Sullivan discovers in the house he inherited his father's old ham radio and begins to play with it. Through the electrical static, he finds himself

talking to a man who claims to be a firefighter and who appears to be awaiting the World Series of 1969. Is John really talking to his own living father on the very same day, in the very same house, but exactly three decades ago?"

As an amateur radio operator, it is exciting to see our hobby so prominently featured in a major studio movie like "*Frequency*", and I see it as an incredible opportunity. Without a doubt, Frequency is the single most important thing to happen to amateur radio since single side band supplanted AM as our mode of choice. Frequency offers us, as amateurs, a unique opportunity to do something that we, as a group, are normally bad at: promote the #@\$& out of amateur radio.

I am convinced that if amateur radio is to survive as a viable institution through the 21st century, that we are going to have to get the word out about what it is that we do. Think about it! If city governments and housing associations really understood the long distance emergency communications capabilities of ham radio, would restrictive antenna ordinances and covenants still hamstring hams? Or would communities instead be encouraging hams to erect towers and antennas for emergency communications use?

The problem is that few people outside of amateur radio have an accurate picture of what hams do, of what we are all about. Many people don't even know that ham radio exists, equating hams with dreaded Citizens' Band radio operators. Restrictive antenna covenants and declining number of new amateurs are both the direct result of people not knowing about the great hobby and service of amateur radio.

So, think of "*Frequency*" as a chance to educate the world about the fun side and the serious side of amateur radio. Whatever you do, don't just let the movie go by: DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT. Now is the time for your club to organize. Approach the local theater owner about the possibility of having a club table outside the theater during opening weekend. Pass out brochures on amateur radio. Do a HF or satellite demonstration showing off the long-distance capabilities of amateur radio.

NEWS FLASH!!!

As hams, many of us think of the exciting elements of ham radio as being commonplace. The average person doesn't. You can instill a sense of magic and wonder in people by showing them how it is possible to talk around the world without any wires connecting you to the person with whom you are speaking!

We at PREMIER Communications feel so strongly about the positive effect of Frequency that we have joined with the American Radio Relay League and several other companies within the amateur radio industry. Together, we are co-sponsoring an award for the amateur radio club that does the most spectacular job of promoting amateur radio in conjunction with Frequency. The winning club will receive a donation of a sensational amount of amateur radio equipment, including an ADI AR-147+ 2-meter mobile. The exact details of the contest will be announced in the ARRL letter on this Friday (14 April 2000).

So get out there and do something to promote amateur radio. If everyone does their part, the impact - like the movie - can reach across time, helping to mold a positive future for the greatest hobby in existence.

* * *

Ken Collier is the marketing director for PREMIER Communications, the maker of ADI radios and PRYME two-way radio accessories.

Your editor received the following as an email :

“Dave says: (and this is NOT VE3AVS)

An ICOM IC-746 HF plus VHF transceiver is among the prizes pledged by manufacturers for the club that does the best job of promoting Amateur Radio at a local theater screening the movie Frequency. The ham radio-related sci-fi thriller is expected to debut April 28. Local show schedules could vary.”

(visit <http://www.frequencymovie.com>)

ABC has just learned that blind Amateur Radio operator **W8DBF**, of Flint, Michigan, was hospitalized for observation this afternoon after being injured while hanging an antenna. According to eye witnesses, Fischer, the only totally blind professional Magician/Illusionist in world was using a special wire called Copper Weld. He had secured it to a large forty foot Scotch Pine in his back yard with screw eyes he had bolted through the trunk of the tree.

Fischer had somehow convinced the single woman next door to let him use her 1999 Jeep Cherokee to stretch the wire taught between the tree and his sixty foot steel radio tower "I don't know what came over me.", Amanda Huxler 34 said. "Duane is apt to try most anything and I did not want to discourage him from putting up an antenna for his radio. I knew he used to drag race before losing his sight and built custom cars afterwards, so I wasn't worried about him hurting my Cherokee. I thought he was just going to use it to winch the wire. I had no idea he was going to drive it! Is he going to get a ticket?"

Fischer apparently misjudged the distance between the Jeep Cherokee and the neighbor's swimming pool. "I knew I was in trouble when I heard the split rail fence crunch.", Fischer said with a chuckle. "I have never heard people run so fast or scream so loud! My reaction time is down from what it used to be in my racing days and by the time I got my foot on the brake pedal, the Cherokee was already taking on water!"

Neighbors pulled Fischer from the Jeep as it disappeared below the surface of the Olympic size pool. One observer reported Fischer muttering something about wishing he had used that multiple strand Copper wire instead of Copper Weld. He refused to get into the paramedics vehicle until somebody grabbed his 2 meter Handi Talki. As the vehicle started to pull away, one TV reporter asked Fischer if he would ever do such a thing again just to put up a radio antenna. "W8DBF shouted back, "Roger that! And get somebody to get up that pine tree and put my 40 meter dipole back up!."

(Tks for Fwd from **VA3AY....Ed.**)

News from RAC Bulletins.....

-Industry Canada will set out a document for physicians so they can understand what constitutes a disability in Morese Code testing

-RAC will be asked to prepare a formal proposal regarding reduction of Morse speed to 5 WPM from 12 WPM

-Industry Canada is still reviewing RAC request for primary allocations on 2.4 GHz and a VLF allocation from 13.57 to 137.8 kHz.

-special call sign **VC3CX** has been assignd to **VE3WFS** from May 6 to June 6 to commemorate the First Time Activation of Camp X, a military communications and spy training camp in WW2. The contact person is Winston Sweeney wsweeney@home.com

On-Air Events Calendar.....

May 27-28	CQ WW WPX Contest, CW
May 28	QRP ARCI Hootowl Sprint
May 29-30	MI QRP Club Memorial Day CW Sprint
June 3-4	WW South America CW Contest
June 3-4	IARU Region 1 Field Day, CW
June 3	QRP TAC Sprint

More Only in Canada (de VA3SAM).....

Do we use answering machines to screen calls and then have call waiting so we won't miss a call from someone we didn't want to talk to in the first place!

Will a municipality buy a Zamboni before it buys a bus. (Ed. Note.....if you don't know what a Zamboni is, contact me dkimpton@tbaytel.net

ONTARIO QSO PART RESULTS**CALLSIGN USED: VE3FAL****DISTRICT: RAINY RIVER DISTRICT (RAI)****CLASS OF OPERATION:**

- [x] Fixed Station (Tent trailer in Quetico Provincial Park)
- [x] Single Operator
- [x] All Bands (Only wanted to run single band, but!!!!)
- [x] Low Power
- [x] CW-only

(SUMMARY TABLE)**BAND**

7 mHz 30 QSOs 20 Mults

14 mHz 1 QSO 1 Mult

(62 Total PTS) x (21 Mults)

Total QSO POINTS 62 x Total Multis 21

Score : 1302 Points

E-mail address:flesnick@tbaytel.net

The bands were not that great. I had hoped to only operate 40 metres. But I had to run over to 20 metres to gain my sanity from all the noise and lack of stations on 40 metres due to conditions... It got pretty cold last night ,but kept the propane furnace running in the trailer ,but the northern lights were spectacular out in the park, and listening to the water on the beach ,and the loons singing in the night well made up for lack of playing radio. I took 7 hours total out of the 24 off, thus my ears are ringing from wearing the headphones....So next year it will be multiband , cw only to make up for conditions if one band fades away.

Thanks to all those that I worked ,and many thanks to American friends who took part, and were busy with the other QSO Parties that were taking place... I am curious, did anyone work any other stations from Rainy River District?

Dave **VE3AVS**, put Thunder Bay District on the air, so thanks to Dave for that.... Not much for me to show in the points category but I did have a great time...

73 de Fred **VE3FAL**

(Tks Fred for submitting the information....Ed.)

NORTHERN ONTARIO RANT

I'm not a hunter, a curler or a cross country skier.
 I don't live in a log cabin or a trapper's shack.
 I don't eat moose meat every night.
 And I don't drive a four by four.
 And I don't know Bobby Curtola, Cosmo Filane or
 Shania Twain,
 Although I've heard them all sing.
 I have met Myrna Lorrie and she was very nice.
 I drink whatever I want but especially clear
 unpolluted water.
 I don't play bingo every night of the week and
 I catch pickerel and pike, not Walleye and
 Northerns.
 And I pronounce it To-Ron-To, not Trawna,
 And I know that if you came from THERE to help
 me HERE, then the
 cheque is in the mail along with a few other
 things.
 I go for a sauna at the camp, not a steam bath at
 the cottage
 And I've had heat stroke and frost bite in the same
 month.
 Persians ARE cinnamon buns with icing,
 George the Porter IS Santa's helper
 and Heather Houston IS the best curler.
 And the town next to Terrace Bay IS
 PRONOUNCED SKRY - Ber,not Shry - ber!!!
 North Bay is south and Thunder Bay is pretty
 quiet.
 Kakabeka IS the Niagara of the North and
 Sudbury is the world's largest meteor crater.
 Northern Ontario is the home of the blackfly,
 The BIGGEST part of the Precambrian Shield,
 And the BEST part of Ontario!!
 And I know that...as far as Mike Harris is
 concerned,
 My vote doesn't count!!!

I AM FROM NORTHERN ONTARIO!!!

(Tks to John VE3GTX (who else??) for the email)

TEN MILE ROAD RACE

The tradition continues. Members of the LARC once again participated in the Shoppers Drug Mart 10 Mile Road Race, Monday, May 22nd both as volunteers providing communications along the route and as participants running the 10 mile course. Running the race were student Denise Magill (87:53), **VA3PP** Pat Pugh (92:47), **VE3ICY** Glen Wallace (94:01), **VE3XLB** Linda Bell (94:28) and **VE3AVS** Dave Kimpton (96:16). By the way, **VA3PP** went golfing the next day. Providing communications at each mile marker were **VE3RVA** Bob Hansen, **VE3PHL** John Kuzma, **VA3JRS** Jan Sokoloski, **VA3AMY** Al Sokoloski, **VE3SNW** Ed Baumann, **VA3TBA** Chris Chadwick and **VA3EAP** Judy Artist. At the start/finish line were **VA3MOB** Maureen Meredith and **VE3XRC** Norm Bell. Congratulations to the runners, you all looked good crossing the finish line. (Tks **VE3XRC**....Ed.)

Thisn' that from TCA.....

-newly created Nunavut Territory prefix is **VY0**

-send your comments about changing the entry level for HF access from 12 wpm to 5 wpm to the RAC website: www.rac.ca

-South Africa just announced full HF access with 5 wpm as does Australia

-interested in solar power? Visit this web site: www.members.aol.com/wb3lge/solar.htm

-RAC Canada Day contest coming up July 1st between 0000-2359 UTC

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club
held in Room 207B at Confederation College,
Thunder Bay, Ontario on May 11, 2000**

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 pm by the President VA3RIM, Ian Mellis with 28 members and guests in attendance.

Silent Keys: a moment of silence was observed in memory of VA3KEE, Tom Kukkee who passed away on April 30, 2000 and VE3BIL, Don Lindberg who passed away on May 4, 2000.

Passing of a Season: as the snow has gone and the grass is growing, VE3AJ, Bill Klemacki officially closed antenna season with a resounding blast from his trusty horn and warned those that were contemplating future erections that special permission will be required until the snow comes again.

Minutes of the Meeting held April 13, 2000

The minutes of the meeting held April 13, 2000 were published in detail in the May edition of "HI-Q" and distributed to all members.

Motion: moved by VE3AJ, Bill Klemacki and seconded by VA3JRS, Jan Sokoloski that the minutes be accepted as distributed. **Carried.**

Correspondence:

-letter from Shopper's Drug Mart 10 Mile Road Race

Treasurer's Report: VA3JRS, Jan Sokoloski

Balance as of March 31, 2000		\$ 2,935.99
Income: 50/50 Draw	<u>8.00</u>	8.00
Expenses: Telephone		40.37
Antenna Installation	500.00	
Post Office Box Rental		101.69
Class Expenses		107.53
CNIB		100.00
Bank Service Charge	<u>1.20</u>	850.79
Balance as of April 30, 2000		\$ 2,093.20

Motion: moved by VA3JRS, Jan Sokoloski and seconded by VE3AVS, Dave Kimpton that the Treasurer's report be accepted. **Carried.**

Committee Reports:

Equipment: VE3TKA, Terry Stewardson reported that nothing much has happened over the past month. He is still getting reports on how the new antenna on VE3YQT is working. The old antenna from VE3YQT was in pretty rough shape. The Dryden Club is putting in a repeater in Ignace sometime this summer.

Community Service: four members of the Club assisted the Salvation Army on May 1, 2000. Operators have been lined up for the Run For Women May 13, the Shoppers Drug Mart 10 Mile Road Race May 22 and the Hip Hip Hooray Walk the end of May.

Classes: VE3SNW, Ed Baumann reported that there are two more classes to go for this year.

Old Business:

Silent Key Policy: VA3RIM, Ian Mellis reported that a donation was made to the Thunder Bay Regional Hospital in memory of VA3KEE, Tom Kukkee. A general discussion followed.

Motion: moved by VE3GTX, John Watson and seconded by VE3TKA, Terry Stewardson that the Executive be empowered to send a donation and/or flowers to a maximum amount of \$ 50.00 for a Silent Key who is a present

member of the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club and cards of condolence be sent to others. **Carried as amended.**

Amendment to the motion: moved by VE3AVS, Dave Kimpton and seconded by VE3ICY, Glen Wallace that sympathy cards be sent to other local amateurs (not members of the Club) and immediate family members. **Carried.**
Field Day: we have been informed by the Lakehead Regional Conservation Authority that the beach area at Hazelwood Lake is available for field day, but the picnic shelter is not available. VA3RIM, Ian Mellis asked the question if we should participate in field day. VE3TKA, Terry Stewardson stated that regardless of how many were interested, field day should be held and supported by the Club. It was decided to hold field day in a field adjacent to the residence of VE3TKA.

New Business: none

50/50 Draw: winner of the 50/50 Draw was VE3TKA, Terry Stewardson.

Adjournment: moved by VE3SNW, Ed Baumann that the meeting be adjourned.

Guest Speaker: Wayne Whittaker from the Meteorological Service of Canada presented a refresher course on CANWARN. Canwarn is now a national program. In the case of severe weather, an organized net will be established on 2m. If possible, net control will operate out of the Environment Canada office on Court Street using VA3YQT. VE3AVS, Dave Kimpton has taken on the responsibility of looking after VA3YQT and training of amateurs in the use of the equipment. Following his presentation, Wayne made a presentation to the Club, a beautiful framed certificate, for the Club's participation in Y2K as well as a \$ 500.00 gift certificate to Radio World in Toronto.

T & S RADIO ELECTRONICS

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Open 9:00 am 6:00 pm Monday thru Saturday

LARC FIELD SATURDAY-SUNDAY JUNE 24-25**2 PM SATURDAY TO 2 PM SUNDAY (LOCAL TIME)**

“While I have precious little time to attend Field Day, when I do, I seldom operate for very long, preferring to allow others the opportunity to take the mike or key, and to socialize and talk with the newer hams. This is a real opportunity to encourage the new hams to upgrade, to learn more and to become more involved with the local amateur community. Some of my fondest memories of my early days in ham radio were at Field Day. Good chili, a few 807’s, and lots of wonderful friendships. The score was really a minor issue!”

(de Peter DeWolf, VE3YYY via TCA May/June, 2000)

Bring your own food, shelter (if overnight) and refreshments. Contact anyone on the executive and offer help to erect antennas, equipment, etc. etc.

Then simply follow the map below to Field Day site (thanks Terry VE3TKA).

